

FOR INFORMATION CALL

February 26, 2019

Ald. Russell W. Stamper, II (414) 286-2659

Council approves legislation to adopt a flat fee for littering offenses

The Common Council today approved an ordinance that will take effect on April 1, 2019 adopting a flat fee of \$500 for littering offenses, in an effort to keep the greater Milwaukee community clean.

Sponsored by Alderman Russell W. Stamper, II, Common Council File #181152 eliminates the \$25 to \$500 penalty range for the first littering offense on public or private premises, and the \$50 to \$500 range for each subsequent offense, and stipulates the penalty for all littering on public or private premises be a flat \$500 including all forfeitures, penalties, fees and assessments levied by the municipal court. Co-sponsored by Alderman Terry L. Witkowski, Alderwoman Chantia Lewis, Alderman José G. Pérez, Alderman Khalif J. Rainey, Alderman Ashanti Hamilton, Alderman Cavalier Johnson, Alderwoman Nikiya Dodd, and Alderman Robert J. Bauman, the ordinance was approved unanimously by the full Council.

"We bring this legislation as an effort to change the way we see and appreciate our streets and properties," Alderman Stamper stated. "Through these changes, including a forthcoming public information and awareness campaign about littering and the new \$500 fine, we hope that we can work together to keep our Milwaukee community a clean and beautiful place to live."

Alderwoman Chantia Lewis shared with the council her research of cities with similar penalties, which resulted in cleaner streets due to residents not wanting to pay steep fines for littering.